

Jonathan Avery
President
Hazardville Water Company
Jewett City Water Company
Before the
Energy & Public Utilities Committee
February 7, 2013

Re: SB-807 - AN ACT CONCERNING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND CONSERVATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, MUNICIPAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND UNPAID UTILITY ACCOUNTS AT MULTI-FAMILY DWELLINGS

I urge support for the provisions in SB-807 which are aimed at promoting water conservation. Sections 1-3 of SB-807 encourages the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) to adopt rate structures that would send appropriate price signals and offer programs for consumers to promote water conservation. At the same time, these provisions provide financial protection to the water utility by ensuring the rates charged when conservation is achieved meet the revenue requirements established by PURA to recover the utility's operating costs and maintain a level of investment necessary to sustain the system.

The bill would also expand the eligibility for Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment (WICA) charges authorized under Section 16-262v of the CGS. **I support Section 6 of SB-807** which expands the definition of WICA eligible projects to include items that are important to achieving the state's energy and environmental policies. These include energy efficient equipment and capital improvements to assist in complying with the state's stream flow regulations.

Section 7 of the bill expands the cap for WICA to 10% between rates cases which allows investments to be made to encourage additional conservation without compromising continued investments in replacing aging infrastructure. This is important to utilities such as Hazardville and Jewett City Water that spend thousands of dollars in rate cases, making it difficult to support investment in conservation and infrastructure replacement. **I therefore urge support for Section 7 of SB-807.**